

CLAIMS:

1. An activity monitor comprising:
a measurement unit including a plurality of motion sensors for producing
respective sensor signals indicative of motion experienced thereby; and
a processor operable to receive the sensor signals from the measurement unit,
5 and to process the sensor signals in accordance with a predetermined method,
characterized in that the processor is operable to process the sensor signals as
respective vector components to produce a resultant vector.
2. An activity monitor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the motion sensors are
10 accelerometers.
3. An activity monitor as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the motion sensors are
arranged to be mutually orthogonal.
- 15 4. An activity monitor as claimed in claim 3, wherein the processor is operable to
calculate the magnitude of the resultant vector according to the following expression:
$$a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2}$$
, where a is the magnitude of the resultant vector, a_x , a_y and
 a_z are respective sensor signals.
- 20 5. An activity monitor as claimed in claim 4, wherein values of a are stored in a
lookup table.
6. An activity monitor as claimed in claim 4, wherein the processor is operable to
calculate the direction of the resultant vector.
- 25 7. A method of monitoring activity using a plurality of motion sensors which are
operable to produce respective sensor signals indicative of motion experienced thereby, the
method comprising receiving sensor signals and processing the signals in accordance with a

predetermined method, characterized in that the sensor signals are processed as respective vector components to produce a resultant vector.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the magnitude of the resultant vector

5 according to the following expression:

$a = \sqrt{a_x^2 + a_y^2 + a_z^2}$, where a is the magnitude of the resultant vector, a_x , a_y and a_z are respective sensor signal.

9. A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8, comprising calculating and storing the

10 direction of the resultant vector.